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10. (Amended) A computer program, disposed on a computer readable medium, for updating an electronic catalog, the program including instructions for causing a processor to:

- identify elements of an electronic catalog, including a header, a footer, and a body;
- initiate instructions for reading the elements of the electronic catalog to determine whether information therein is current; and
- update the elements of the electronic catalog with current information.

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14. (Amended) A computer program, disposed on a computer readable medium, for annotation of an electronic catalog, the program including instructions for causing a processor to:

- identify elements of an electronic catalog, including a header, a footer, and a body;
- generate at least one electronic catalog source document [according to the document type definition] from the elements;
- generate at least one compound document having elements similar to that of the electronic catalog;
- enclose the electronic catalog source document within the compound document; and
- provide an annotation section referring to entries in the electronic catalog source document.

15. (Amended) A computer program of claim 14, further including instructions for causing a processor to:

- generate a digital signature for verification of the compound document, wherein verification of the compound document does not prevent verification of the authenticity of the electronic catalog source document.

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16. (Amended) A computer program, disposed on a computer readable medium, for assisting purchases and sales of a plurality of items according to a plurality of transaction types, the program including instructions for causing a processor to:

- identify elements of an electronic catalog, including a header, a footer, and a body; and
- generate a sales-model tag in the header, for specifying the type of transaction for which the electronic catalog will be used.

JK7
19. (Amended) A computer storage medium containing a computer program having means for identifying elements of an electronic catalog document for subsequent distribution of the elements, comprising:

means for identifying elements of an electronic catalog, including a header, a footer, and a body;

means for determining a location in the storage medium for storing each of the elements of the electronic catalog;

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means for storing each of the elements in the respective location in the storage medium; and

means for retrieving each of the elements for the respective location for subsequent distribution.

20. (Amended) A computer-based method of providing an electronic catalog, comprising:

providing a header section to identify a source of an electronic catalog;

providing a body section to permit object entries in the electronic catalog;

providing a footer section including information for verifying content of the header and body sections; and

formatting the sections so that they can be presented as an electronic catalog to a user for action.

21. (Amended) A method of claim 20, further comprising:

distributing elements of an electronic catalog document to a plurality of servers.

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34. (Amended) A computer-based method for verifying the authenticity of an electronic catalog, comprising:

identifying elements of an electronic catalog document, including a header, a footer, and a body;

locating within the footer of the electronic catalog document an electronic signature; and analyzing the signature to verify the authenticity of the electronic catalog document.

JK107
35. (Amended) A computer-based method for updating an electronic catalog, comprising:

identifying elements of an electronic catalog document, including a header, a footer, and

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a body;

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reading the elements of the electronic catalog to determine whether information therein is
current; and

updating the electronic catalog document with current information.

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39. (Amended) A computer-based method for annotation of an electronic catalog,
comprising:

identifying elements of an electronic catalog document, including a header, a footer, and
a body;

generating at least one electronic catalog source document from the elements; and
generate at least one compound document having elements similar to that of the
electronic catalog;

enclosing the electronic catalog source document within the compound document; and
providing an annotation section referring to entries in the electronic catalog source

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document.

40. (Amended) A computer-based method of claim 39, comprising:

providing a digital signature for verification of the compound document, wherein
verification of the compound document does not prevent verification of the authenticity of the
electronic catalog source document.

PW B17
41. (Amended) A computer-based method for assisting purchases and sales of a plurality
of items according to a plurality of transaction types, comprising:

identifying elements of an electronic catalog, including a header, a footer, and a body;
and

providing a sales-model tag in the header, for specifying the type of transaction for which
the electronic catalog will be used.

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44. (Amended) A computer-based method of storing electronic documents, comprising:

identifying elements of an electronic catalog, including a header, a footer, and a body;